

HOUSE BILL 2798

By Johnson R

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39,  
Chapter 15, Part 4, relative to the offense of child  
abuse and child neglect or endangerment.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-15-401, is amended by deleting subsection (b) and substituting instead the following:

(b) Any person who knowingly abuses or neglects a child under eighteen (18) years of age, so as to adversely affect the child's health and welfare, commits a Class A misdemeanor; provided, that, if the abused or neglected child is six (6) years of age or less, the penalty is a Class E felony.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.